

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF EMERGENCY PLANNING
WASHINGTON, D. C.

62-1002

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

February 10, 1962

Honorable John McCone
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Langley, Virginia

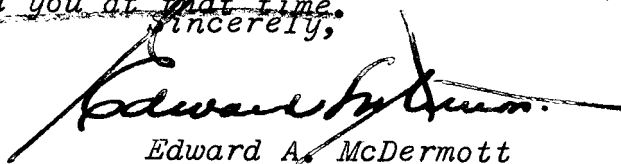
Dear Mr. McCone:

You have received a copy of the President's memorandum of February 7, designating me as chairman of a group of department and agency heads, including yourself, to review the principles and policies which should guide our program for the stockpiling of strategic materials. You have also received an accompanying cover letter from the President on this subject, emphasizing his interest and the urgency of our early attention to this problem. The President has asked that we complete our review and submit our recommendations to him not later than March 19, and earlier if possible.

While substantial staff support will be necessary to each of the Committee members in the course of this review, it is advisable that the members of the Committee designated by the President meet together soon to consider this assignment.

This meeting will be held at 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, February 13, in the Cabinet Room at the White House, and I am looking forward to meeting with you at that time.

Sincerely,



Edward A. McDermott
Acting Director

62-8311

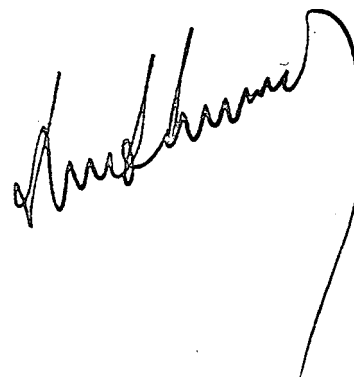
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

February 7, 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
THE SECRETARY OF STATE
THE SECRETARY OF INTERIOR
THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE
THE SECRETARY OF LABOR
DIRECTOR, CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY ←
ADMINISTRATOR, GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

Enclosed is a copy of my memorandum to the Acting Director of the Office of Emergency Planning advising him of the responsibilities of the committee I have designated to review the principles and policies to guide our program of stockpiling strategic materials. I want to emphasize the importance of this review and to direct your attention to the urgency of prompt action. We must be prepared to present a strong case when the Senate Stockpiling Subcommittee begins its inquiry.



Enclosure

62-831

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

February 7, 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR

Honorable Edward McDermott
Acting Director
Office of Emergency Planning

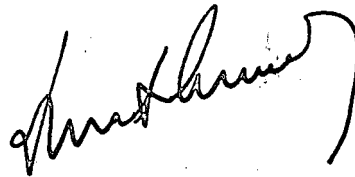
To confirm our earlier discussions, I am designating you to serve as the chairman of a group of department and agency heads to review the principles and policies which should guide our program for the stockpiling of strategic materials. Any stockpiling must obviously be related to our Nation's defense strategy, and must insure that materials necessary to our national defense and security will be available in the event of national emergency.

I believe your committee should also give attention to specific goals as well as to basic principles, to the acquisition and maintenance of the materiel, and to the disposal of materials now on hand in excess of goals determined to be appropriate. This program is of vital importance to the Nation both in terms of our security and in terms of the Federal investment in these stockpiled goods. In addition, consideration should be given to the problems of our domestic minerals industry and to the international consequences of our programs of acquisition and disposal.

In the past there may have been justification for classifying all or most of the information bearing on this program, but the changes in circumstances from the initiation of the program to the present call for a review of the secret classification. I expect, therefore, that your committee composed of the heads of those departments and agencies whose responsibilities bear heavily on whether classification is warranted promptly review this question and that you will take the steps necessary to declassify as much information as possible consistent with national security.

I am hopeful that your review will be completed by an early date and, in any event, no later than March 19.

Those who will serve on the committee with you are the Secretaries of Defense, State, Interior, Commerce and Labor, the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, and the Administrator of the General Services Administration.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "D. M. Lawrence", written in a cursive style.